Eriostemon verrucosus
'Fairy wax flower'

CASTLEMAINE NATURALIST

40

OCTOBER 1979

President: Mrs R. Mills
Treasurer: Mr L. Bransgrove.
Secretary: Mr G. Sitch
Newsletter: Mr E. Perkins.

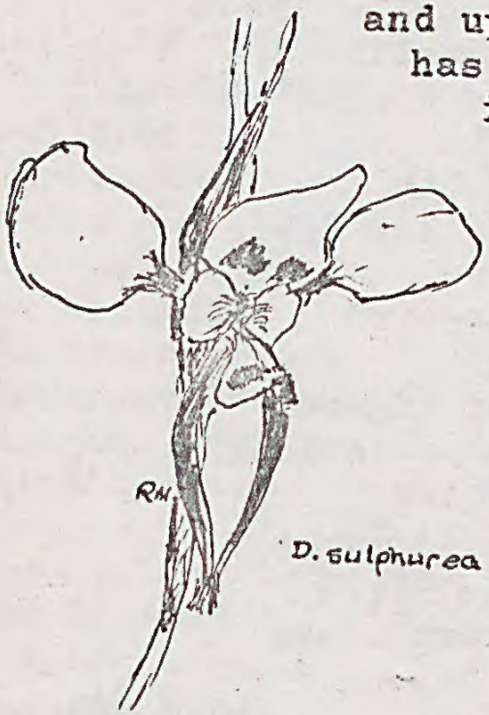
General meetings are held on the second Friday of each month, and business meetings on the fourth Thursday. Meetings are at 8.00 p.m. at the Castlemaine Education Centre, Mostyn St, Castlemaine.

Visitors and prospective members are invited to attend the Club's sessions.

Orchids of the Castlemaine District Number 24 of a series

TIGER ORCHID - DIURIS SULPHUREA by Mrs R. Mills

Found at Muckleford, Harcourt and Glenluce, the Tiger Orchid is easy to spot with its large clear yellow flowers, several to the stem, and up to 5 cm. across. The dorsal sepal has two distinctive brown blotches which identify it, even in the bud. The petals do not have markings; the three lobed tongue is yellow and brown; the lateral sepals, or tails, are brown and yellow, and the whole plant is up to 60 cm high. There are two or three narrow linear leaves.



It flowers in late spring, and in this area, in early summer. It is a relatively common orchid elsewhere, but not as common as Diuris maculata, the Leopard Orchid, in the Castlemaine area.

NEXT MONTH'S NATURALIST Feral cats and domestic cats have been in the news recently. This is planned as a theme for the next (Nov.) issue. Contibutions about any aspect of this topic are invited.

A BARKERS CREEK BIRD LIST

By L. Grant

Supberb Blue Wren
Eastern Spinebill
Yellow-faced Honeyeater
White-bearded Honeyeater
Yellow-tufted Honeyeater
White-eared Honeyeater
White-plumed Honeyeater
Scissors Grinder
Willie-wagtail
Horsefield's Bronze-cuckoo
Pallid Cuckoo
Fantailed Cuckoo
Golden Whistler
Rufous Whistler
White-backed Magpie
Mudlark
Red-browed Finch
Grey Fantail
Welcome Swallow
Harmonius Thrush
Galah
Rainbow Bird
Spur-winged Plover
White Faced Heron
White-necked Heron
Straw-necked Ibis
White Ibis
Brown Quail
Mistletoe Bird
Zebra Finch
Mopoke
White-browed Scrub-wren
Fork-tailed Swift
Striated Pardalote
Yellow-tailed Pardalote
Spotted Pardalote
Black-headed Pardalote
Wedge-tailed Eagle
Masked Woodswallow
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo
Tawny Frogmouth
Kookaburra
Raven
Sacred Kingfisher
Eastern Shrike-tit
Peaceful Dove
Owlet Nightjar
Barn Owl
Black-capped Sitella
White-fronted Treecreeper
Little Grebe
Nankeen Nightheron
Brown Bittern
Dusky Moorhen
Black Duck
White Egret
Pied Cormorant
Black Cormorant
Double-bar Finch)Aviary escapes?
Budgerigar
Black-faced Cuckoo Shrike.
Letter-winged Kite
Black Shouldered Kite
Striated Thornbill
Brown Thornbill
Yellow-tailed Thornbill
Grey Currawong
Little Lorikeet
Eastern Rosella
Crimson Rosella
Red-capped Robin
Flame Robin
Scarlet Robin
Southern Yellow Robin
Leatherhead
Red Wattle-bird
Silvereye
Bronzewing Pigeon
Collared Sparrowhawk.
Brown Goshawk
White-winged Chough

Introduced Birds

Spotted Turtledove
Domestic Pigeon
Goldfinch
Blackbird
Starling
House Sparrow

SELECTIVE CLASSIFIED INDEX NUMBERS 1 - 40

ANTHROPOLOGY

Aboriginal History 1

ASTRONOMY

Eclipse of the sun 7,8
Mars-Viking Landing 13
Planets th'gh binoculars 11
Stars through binoculars 11
Uranus, rings 17

BIRDS

Attracting native birds 14
Birds in Your Garden
- Grey-backed Silvereye 5
- Grey Fantail 23
- Red Wattlebird 13
- Rufous Whistler 10
- White Plumed Honeyeater 3
- Yellow-tailed Thornbill 17

Bird Atlas 30
Bird Observer's Club 31
Bird Lists
- Castlemaine Golf Course 36
- Barkers Creek 11,40
- Bells Swamp 2
- Dargile/Heathcote 40
- Guildford 36
- Harcourt 11
- Kalimna 12,34
- Kaweka 36
- Mt Alexander 15
- Porcupine Ridge 6
- Sewerage Ponds 36
- Vaughan Springs 36
- Wychitella 39
- Yapeen 36

Cormorants-wing drying 36
Emeu in 1859 34
Emeu for sale 37
Food for birds 14
Magpies 17
Mistletoe & Misletoe Birds 10
Pelicans in New Zealand 36
Tawny Frogmouth 12

BOOKS

Books for reference library 6
Book Reviews
- Aust ferns & Fern Allies 9
- Birds of Bendigo Distrt. 9
- Bushwalking in VicR'nges 32
- Care of Sick&Injured Native Birds &Animals 5
- Correas (G. Sitch) 12
- Field Guide Birds(Slater) 3
- Field Guide to Plants of S.E. Australia(Galbraith 15
- Flora of S. Aust(Black) 31
- Moss of S. Aust(Scott) 9
- Orchids of S. Aust. 36
- Physiography of Vic 17

ECOLOGY/CONSERVATION

Attracting native birds 14
Castlemaine City Planning 34
C'vation means exploit'n 27
Control Burning (Mt Alex'r) 39
Detergent-how much? 13
Dry summer-effects of 22
Ebbr Fawr-a river restored 18
Kalimna
- Anticline 14
- K'a Point Plant List 4
- Kalimna Point Map 4,39
- Plant List 33
- Walking Trail 39

Land Conservation Council
- Alpine area 16,24
- Alps 37
- Mallee 16
- North Central 29,31
- N.E. Victoria 1
- S.E. Vic -Dist 2 36
- Southern Victoria 18

Loddon/Campaspe Planning
- Survey 9
- Interesting areas 16

National Parks Assn. 17

Recording system 8
Reminiscences(F. Taylor) 22
Rivers, Creeks and Man 18
Street trees 26,29
Vic Forests & Trees 38
West. Queensland, trip to 29

EXCURSION REPORTS/GUIDES

Basalt block 1
Barfold 8
Bells Swamp 2
Black Hill(Kyneton) 14
Brisbane Ranges 19
Cobaw 27
Creswick Campout 23
Dargile Reserve 40,39
Grampians(CFNC) 19
Grampians(WVFNCA) 36
Kalimna North 29
Mineral Springs 4
Muckleford 27
Ocean Grove 16,19
Pond Life 22
Porcupine Ridge 5
Ridge Rd to Maldon 7
Taradale/Fryerstown 29
Unknown Miners Grave G 6,7
Vaughan Bushwalk 13
Wychitella 39

GENERAL

Bicycle tracks 35
Binoculars-purchase of 11
Club emblem 17
Gould League 15
Index for 1976 9
Slides-which way up? 3

GEOLOGY

Anticline in Kalimna 14
Geol' features of Cmne Dt 6
Loddon Campaspe features 16
Mineral Springs 2
M'al springs survey 24
Muckleford Fault 26
Muckleford Deep Leads 27
Rivers, Creeks&Man 18

HISTORICAL

Centipede in 1856 32
Dicrastylis dorani 37
English Thrush(1861) 16
Emueu(1859) 34
Emueufor sale 37
Mining(1556) 34
Platypus 40
Sweet Briar for sale(1858) 10
Rivers, Creeks and Man 18

INVERTEBRATES

Army Worms 12
Case Moths 6,8
Caterpillar-Which? 10
Centipede in 1856 32
Freshwater Invertebrates 32
Pond Life 21
Wanderer Butterfly 10

MAPS

Black Hill (Kyneton) 14
Castl'ne Dist(Bird Atlas) 30
Cobaw 27
Club Records Grid 8
Dargile 39
Geological features 6
Guildford Fault 26
Local Shires 9
Kalimna 4,33,39
Mineral Springs 2
North Central (LCC) 29,31
Ocean Grove 16
Serendip 37
Unknown Miners Grave G'y 6
Wychitella 39

PLANTS

Acacias of C'me District 28
Basket Fungi 22,24
Eucalypts of C'ne Dist
Large trees 38
Nardoo 38
New Plant Names 24
Orchid Books 15
Orchids-some friends& and enemies 15

Orchids of C'ne area (list) 6
Ochids of Castlemaine Dist.
Acianthus reniformis 32
Caladenia caerula 8
C. cucullata 19
C. dilatata 9
C. patersonii 17
Chiloglottis gunnii 15
Corybas diemenicus 34
Dipodium punctatum 12
Diuris maculata 16
D. punctata 24
Eriochilus cucullatus 10
Microtis parviflora 7
Orthocras strictum 11
Pterostylis alata 39
P. barbata 23
P. curta 35
P. mutica 31
P. nana 22
P. nutans 36
P. robusta 5
P. sp 27
Spiranthes sinensis 13
Thelymitra macmillanii 13

Orchids of C'ne District
Bird Orchid, Common 15
Caladenia, Blue 8
Caladenia, Hooded 19
Diuris, Purple 24
Gnat Orchid 32
Greenhood, Bearded 23
" , Blunt 35
" , Dwarf 22
" , Midget 31
" , Mystery 27
" , Nodding 36
" , Sharp-leaf 5
" , Striped 39
Helmet-Orchid, Slaty 34
Horned Orchid 12
Hyacinth Orchid 11
Ladies Tresses 13
Leopard Orchid 16
Onion Orchid, Slender 7
Parson's Bands 10
Spider Orchid, Common 17
Sun Orchid, Crimson 13
Spider Orchid, Greencomb 9
Tiger Orchid 40

Plants Lists
Attracting Birds 14
Barfold 8
Basalt Block 1
Bells Swamp 2
Dargile 39
Elphinstone/Monk 19
Kalimna Point 4
Kalimna 33
Orchid list Castlemaine 9
Porcupine Ridge 5
Tarrengower 37, 38
Ridge Rd to Muckleford 7
Unknown Miners Grave Gully 6
Wychitella 39
Plants of Castlemaine Dist
Acacia genistifolia 3
Amyema quandang 4
Angophora floribunda 1
Calocephalus citreus 11
Cassinia arcuata 2
Correa glabra 12
C. reflexa 12
Eucalyptus albens 13
E. baxteri 16
Hybanthus floribundus 5
Typha domingensis 21
Zalusianskya divaricata 29
Plants of the Cast. District
Apple, Rough-barked 1
Beauty Heads, Lemon 11
Box, White 13
Bulrush 21
Cassinia, Drooping 2
Chinese Scrub 2
Coffee Bush 2
Correa, Common 15
Correa, Rock 15
Cumbungi 21
Mistletoe, Box 12
Mistletoe, Drooping 12
Mistletoe, Grey 4

Plants of Cast. Dist. (cont)

Night-phlox, Spreading 13
Stringybark, Brown 16
Violet, Shrub 5
Wattle, Spreading 3

Plants - new or unusual
Acacia difformis 14
Amyema preissii 5
Caladenia, Musky 12
Early Nancy, albino 16
Eucalyptus ovata 14
Microtis biloba 10
Onion Orchid 10
Pterostylis sp. 27
Pultenaea laxiflora 9
Zalusianskya divaricata 29

Propagation of native plants 12
Waratahs - Legend of 15
Weeds of Cast. District 20

SYMPOSIA

Pines or Native? 2
Save Our Bushland 31

VERTEBRATES (Except Birds)

Dinosaurs-not so extinct 14
European Carp 27
Fish of Local Streams 18
Leadbeaters Possum 37
Mammal Survey 15
Newts, Ecological disaster 2
Red Kangaroo 24
Roadside Reserves&Gliders 34
Skinks, slaters & Earwigs 13
Sugar Gliders at BarkersC 37
Snakes Alive Oh! (NSW) 13
Things are looking up for Wombats 8
Platypus (1864) 40

EXCURSION TO DARGILE FOREST An excursion report.

After a long winter, the warm sunshine helped to make the trip and walk through the forest most enjoyable. Birds were in abundance. Stan Bruton's list is printed below. He writes " Only three species were included in both lists, so the total for the trip was 41 species identified. The last two species were added as we drove home. The two emus were in a grass paddock north of the road, east of the donkey stud farm. No houses were in sight, so they didn't look domesticated. Does anyone know their story?"

At Dargile Forest

Eastern Yellow Robin
Fantail Cuckoo
White-winged Chough
Spotted Pardalote
Striated Pardalote
Grey Strike-thrush
White-plumed Honeyeater
Golden Whistler
Eastern Spinebill
Scaly Thrush
Superb Blue Wren
Red Wattlebird
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo
Pallid Cuckoo
Scarlet Robin
Olive Backed Oriole
Noisy Miner
Mistletoe Bird
Painted Quail

Castlemaine to Heathcote

Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike
Eastern Rosella
Welcome Swallow
Australian Magpie
Red-rumped Parrot
Little Grebe
Tree Martin
White-eyed Duck
Spurwinged Plover
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo
Black Duck
Little Pied Cormorant
Kookaburra
White-faced Heron
Yellow-rumped Thornbill
Willy Wagtail
Straw-necked Ibis
Galah
Wood Duck
Noisy Miners
Red Wattlebird
Sparrow
Common Myna
Magpie Lark
Emu

40 plants were added to the Dargile Reserve Plant List. They are:-

Acaena ovina (Sheep's Burr)
Anguillaria diocea (Early Nancy)
Asphodelus fistulosus (Onion W.)
Boronia aneminifolia (Sticky B.)
Caladenia caerulea (Blue Calad.)
C. carnea (Pink fingers)
Craspedia glauca (Billy Buttons)
Crassula macrantha (Stonecrop)
Cymbonotus preissianus (BearsEar)
Daucus glochidiatus (Austral C.)
Daviesia virgata (Twiggy BitterP)
D. ulicifolia (Gorse bitter-pea)
Diuris maculata (Leopard Orchid)
D. pedunculata (Golden Moths)
Drosera auriculata (Errienellum)
D. peltata (Pale Sundew)
D. whittakeri (Scented Sundew)
Glossodia major (Wax-lip Orchid)
Goodenia lanata (Trailing Good.)
Helichrysum viscosum (Everlasts)
Hibbertia exuciaces (Guinea flow.)
Hydrocotyle laxiflora (Pennywort)
Hypoxis glabella (Yellow Star)
Microseris lanceolata (Yam)
Millotia tenuifolia (Soft Millotia)
Oxalis corniculata (Wood Sorrell)
Pelargonium rodneyanum (Storksbill)
Pimelia humilis (Small Riceflower)
P. linifolia (Slender Riceflower)
Plantago varia (Variable Plantain)
Platylobium formosum (Flat Pea)
Pterostylis nana (Nodding Greenhd)
Pultenaea largiflorens (Bush Pea)
Rhytidosporum marianthus)(Wh. mth.)
Senecio quadridentatus (Fireweed)
Stuartina muelleri (Spoon Cudweed)
Taraxacum officinale (Dandelion)
Tetratheca ciliata (Pink Bells)
Veronica plebia (Trailing Speedwl)
Viola hederacea (Ivy-leaf Violet)

THE PLATYPUS (From Mt Alexander Mail, Sept 1, 1864)

At Woods Point, a ten month captive Platypus has laid eggs. These are soft and white. Mr Rumley, the gold receiver at Woods Point, unfortunately threw away the eggs, before they could be thoroughly examined, but it does seem to settle the point... that the Platypus does lay eggs.

contr. by Ray Bradfield.

OBSERVATION CORNER

by G. Broadway.

These observations are for the month of October, for discussion at the November meeting.

1. Look for any migrant birds returning after spending the winter elsewhere, for example, Martins, Cuckoos.
2. When was a robin last sighted ?
3. Try to find the nest of a Grey Fantail. What is the purpose of the downwards projection?
4. It has been suggested that birds of a similar colour tend to nest in the same tree or one nearby. Watch for examples, e.g. Black and White Flycatcher and Mudlark.
5. Have any Mudlarks been seen lately attacking car hubcaps, or windows?
6. Note any sightings of young birds leaving the nest.
7. Any sightings of Cabbage White Butterfly? If so, note date.
8. When is the first Vine Moth seen? 3/11 ? Or Citrus Butterfly?
9. Saw-fly larvae. Observe one cluster and note when they disappear. Where do they go? 5/11
10. Has anyone observed any trees which have been defoliated or partly so by larvae of the Cupmoth? BCAE 18/9
    Look for any birds eating the larvae.
11. Note the date of any nest building activity of any birds. BB 1/10
    Note also the territorial behaviour of any birds. BB 27/10

MEETING PROGRAM

Friday Oct 12 Switzerland
Speaker is Mr R. Furlong.

Thurs Oct 25 Business meeting

Frid Nov 9 Mammals Speaker is Mr Ian Fenslaw, BendigoFNC

Thurs Nov 22 Business meeting

Frid Dec 14 Birds - Bird Observer Club Slide set.

Thurs Jan 24 Business meeting

Frid Feb 8 Annual Meeting

Friday Mar 21 Photoflora 80

EXCURSIONS

Sat Oct 13 Maldon Walk
Meet Ed Centre at 9.00 for transport to Maldon R.S. Walk back along the railway line.

Fri-Sun Oct 12-14 Nelson Campout
Excursions are to Princess Margaret Rose Caves, Glenelg River Mou mouth and Kentbruck Heath. Films will be shown Sat Eve. by Portland SGAP. Details from F, Meyer.

Mon Nov 5 Maryborough FNC, at M'gh High School Library. Dr J. Willis "In the steps of Baron Von Mueller"

Sat Nov 10. Werona/Shepherds Flat
Leave Ed Centre at 1.30